COALVILLE

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

REPORT

FOR THE YEAR 1898,

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

(R. WYATT JAMIE, M.A., M.B., C.M., D.P.H., Camb.)

COALVILLE:

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REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1898.

To the Coalville Urban District Council.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit a Report respecting the health and sanitary condition of the district for the year 1898.

In my monthly Reports I have detailed to you the individual outbreaks of Infectious Disease and their probable causes, and have also laid before you the measures adopted with a view to prevent their spread.

In this Report I give a summary of the year's statistics, including the number of deaths and death-rates from special diseases, the incidence of disease in the different Wards, and the Mortality at special ages. I also give an outline of the chief outbreaks of preventible disease, with regard more particularly to the conditions existing in the district favourable to its causation and propagation, with a view to indicate the measures desirable for their prevention in the future.

BIRTHS.

During the year 1898, 564 births have been registered, consisting of 304 males and 260 females, giving a birth-rate of 40 per 1000.

The birth-rate for the Urban Districts of Leicestershire for 1897 was 29.

MORTALITY RATES.

During the year 255 deaths occurred in the Urban District, viz. :—122 in the Coalville ward, 63 in the Hugglescote ward, and 70 in the Whitwick ward.

The following Table gives the distribution of deaths in these wards, the death-rate for each ward and the corresponding rate for the year 1897.

TABLE 1.

WARD.	Population to middle of 1897.	Number of Deaths.	Death-rate for 1898.	Death-rate for 1897.
Coalville	5650	122	21·5	16·4
Hugglescote	4180	63	14	11·8
Whitwick	4170	70	16·7	21·1
Whole District	14000	255	18·2	17·4

As will be seen from this Table the Coalville rate is the highest, viz. :—21·5.

Excluding the deaths due to the Colliery Disaster, which are all registered as occurring in the Coalville ward, the death-rate for the latter ward would be 19·4, which would still be a high one. As will be seen later on in this Report this excessive rate is mainly due to an outbreak of Measles which resulted in 14 deaths in the Coalville ward.

Hugglescote ward again has the most favourable death-rate, 14 per 1000.

The death-rate for the Whitwick ward is considerably more favourable than for the previous year, viz. :—16·7 as compared with 21·1 for 1897.

The death-rate for the Urban Districts of the County of Leicester for the year 1897, was 14·8.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

As the Infantile Mortality is of much significance, I give a table showing its incidence in each Ward.

TABLE 2.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

WARD.	Number of Births.	Deaths under one year.	Rate per 1000 Births Registered.	Rate for previous year
Coalville	236	39	165	170
Hugglescote	158	28	177	132
Whitwick	170	33	194	192
Whole District	564	100	177	164

This gives an Infantile Mortality for the Urban District of 177 per 1000 births registered.

This must be regarded as an unfavourable one. The average rate for the Urban Districts of Leicestershire for 1897 was 152·9.

It will be noticed again that the Infantile Mortality of Whitwick ward is the most unfavourable. This is partly due to the prevalence of "Summer Diarrhœa," to which 5 deaths are attributed amongst children under one year.

Of the total deaths, 70 in the Whitwick ward, no fewer than 33 were amongst infants under one.

In view of Tuberculosis being possibly concerned in the high mortality, I have examined the certified causes, but without finding anything definite.

There is a considerable number attributed to "Debility from Birth," "Gastro-enteritis," "Marasmus," etc., and it is not improbable Tuberculosis may have played a part in those cases; although improper feeding is undoubtedly responsible for a large amount of the mortality, principally in the direction of giving infants farinaceous food instead of Milk.

The high mortality of childhood is further evident from the following table giving the deaths classified according to ages in the several wards.

TABLE 3.

DEATHS CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO AGES.

Number of Deaths.	Coalville.	Hugglescote.	Whitwick.	Total.
Under one year	39	28	33	100
One and under 5	27	10	15	52
Five and under 15 ...	3	3	1	7
Fifteen and under 25 ...	6	3	3	12
Twenty-five and under 65	38	15	6	59
Sixty-five and upwards ...	9	4	12	25

Thus of the total number of deaths 152 occurred amongst children under 5: that is 60 per cent. of the total deaths.

At the age period 5-15, seven deaths occurred, a percentage somewhat under the average at that age.

The Whitwick ward had the largest number of deaths amongst those over 65, but this is principally a matter of age distribution in the population, and of little sanitary significance.

TABLE 4.

Showing the incidence of particular diseases in the several wards.

Disease.	Coalville.	Hugglescote.	Whitwick.	Total.
Scarlatina	1	—	—	1
Diphtheria & Membranous Croup	—	1	—	1
Enteric Fever	3	—	3	6
Puerperal Fever	—	1	—	1
Erysipelas	1	—	—	1
Measles	14	5	12	31
Whooping Cough	—	1	1	2
Diarrhœa and Dysentery...	5	6	6	17
Phthisis	2	2	—	4
Bronchitis, Pneumonia and Pleurisy	13	11	1	25
Heart Disease	7	4	6	17
Injuries	12	2	—	14
All other Diseases ...	64	30	41	135

The most noticeable fact in the above table is the large number of deaths due to measles, namely 31. This is the chief cause of the unfavourable death-rate for the year.

Fourteen of these occurred in the Coalville ward, 12 in the Whitwick ward and 5 in the Hugglescote ward. This cause alone adds 2·3 to the general death-rate of the district.

Diarrhœa and Dysentery were responsible for 17 deaths, 5 in the Coalville ward, 6 in Hugglescote, and 6 in Whitwick.

Four deaths were due to Phthisis, while 17 were due to Heart Disease.

The exceptional number due to injuries has been previously alluded to. These included 9 due to suffocation in colliery, 3 suicides, 1 to accidental burns and 1 to fall of roof in pit.

Six deaths were attributed to Typhoid Fever as compared with 5 of the previous year.

ZYMOTIC DISEASE.

The following Table gives the deaths due to the 7 principal Zymotic Diseases in each Ward, and the rate for each Ward.

TABLE 5.

Ward.	Small-pox.	Measles.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria & Croup.	Whooping Cough.	Typhoid Fever.	Diarrhœa.	Total.	Rate for 1898.
Coalville... ...	0	14	1	0	0	3	5	23	4·0
Hugglescote ...	0	5	0	1	1	0	6	13	3·1
Whitwick ...	0	12	0	0	1	3	6	22	5·2
Whole District ...	0	31	1	1	2	6	17	58	4·1

Here will be seen the explanation of the unfavourable death-rate for the year—58 deaths being due to Zymotic Disease, that is upwards of 22 per cent. of the total deaths due to preventible disease, as compared with 23 for the previous year, giving a Zymotic rate of 4·1 as compared with 1·7 for 1897.

These deaths consisted of 31 from Measles, 1 from Scarlatina, 1 from Diphtheria, 6 from Typhoid Fever, 17 from Diarrhœa and Dysentery and 2 from Whooping Cough.

The Zymotic rate for the Year 1897 for the Urban Districts of Leicestershire was 2·0.

MEASLES.

This constituted the Epidemic of the year, resulting as seen above in 31 deaths. The type of disease was virulent particularly with regard to Lung complications. It was also somewhat anomalous in its symptons, partaking in a considerable proportion of cases the form of Röthlen. Occasionally in one family was to be seen a typical Measles case, when the next case in the same family was of a hybrid character. In several of these cases Scarlatina had been in the house a short time previously.

As far as my observation went, the most severe cases were those of a pure Measles type. The Röthlen variety was less severe although the constitutional symptons at the onset were often severe, such as Convulsions, Hyperpyrexia, etc.

The wards most severely affected were Coalville and Whitwick, with 14 and 12 deaths respectively. This was probably accounted for by the fact that it was in the early months of the year that these wards were affected, when the climatic conditions would be more likely to aggravate the lung complications, while Hugglescote was affected chiefly in the summer months.

The preventive measures included School Closure, Voluntary Extension of Holidays by the Managers of Schools, Disinfection of Schoolrooms, etc., but it must be confessed that in this Epidemic those measures did not appear to have any appreciable effect in arresting its spread.

The experience of this district—the loss of 31 lives—during the last year forcibly bears out the fact that Measles is a dangerous infectious disease, and ought to be included amongst the notifiable diseases, and where there are facilities removed to Isolation Hospital.

SCARLATINA.

A mild type of Scarlatina has been prevalent throughout the district, but only one case proved fatal.

WHOOPING COUGH.

Whooping Cough, which was very prevalent during 1897, continued into 1898, and a considerable number of cases occurred; but was confined to a small number of houses affecting every susceptible child in the house. Two deaths are attributed to this cause, as compared with 6 for 1897.

DIPHTHERIA AND MEMBRANOUS CROUP.

One fatal case of Diphtheria occurred in Hugglescote. In the same row several cases of throat trouble had occurred from time to time. The drainage was very imperfect, the site damp, and to a certain extent sewage-sodden.

DIARRHŒA AND DYSENTERY.

No fewer than 17 deaths were due to these causes. Of this number 16 were amongst children under 5 years of age. This disease was chiefly of the type described as "Summer Diarrhœa"; but like Typhoid its sanitary significance is considerable, associated as it is in its causation and propagation with defects of sewerage, water supply and scavenging; and it is in that direction that one must look for a lessened mortality from this cause.

TYPHOID FEVER.

Six deaths fall to be reported from Typhoid Fever as compared with 5 of the previous year. Thirty-two cases were notified during the year, 19 in Coalville, 4 in Hugglescote and 9 in Whitwick.

The Whitwick outbreak formed the subject of a special report in which it was pointed out that it was probably due to the specific contamination of the well water.

The Coalville cases were mostly in rows of houses that have been affected from time to time, and where probably the Typhoid Poison is kept alive in soil, etc., until it gains access to the human subject, probably through the water supply, (shallow surface wells.)

SEWERAGE AND WATER SUPPLY.

Complete schemes of these necessities for the district are gradually progressing towards accomplishment.

SCAVENGING.

As a system this still remains with the householder, but considerable attention has been paid to this department during the year. A special inspection of the district was made in October, with the result that the whole district was thoroughly cleansed of house refuse accumulations. This special inspection accounts for the increased number of inspections made, (4826) as compared with the inspections of the previous year.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

The Common Lodging Houses at Whitwick have been kept in a satisfactory state. Neither the midnight visits by the Sanitary Inspector, nor the Returns have revealed any cases of over-crowding. The houses have been limewashed in accordance with Public Health Act, and the Council's Bye-laws respecting Common Lodging Houses have been complied with. During 1898 these houses have accommodated 9406 people, a decrease of 1446 as compared with the previous year. Your Sanitary Inspector has paid monthly day inspections and quarterly midnight inspections during the year.

BAKEHOUSES, SLAUGHTER-HOUSES, AND DAIRIES.

The work in this department is of the utmost importance, and with respect to Slaughter-houses and Dairies, more particularly on account of their connection with the spread of Tuberculosis.

Complaints of nuisances are also somewhat frequent by those residing in the vicinity of Slaughter-houses, and from the nature of the work, as nuisances are likely to be recurrent, those places require the continued attention of your Sanitary Inspector.

UNWHOLESOME FOOD.

The food exposed for sale in Coalville Market and elsewhere has been periodically inspected, and although sometimes very inferior in quality, has been found wholesome.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

Plans in accordance with the requirements and suggestions of the Local Government Board are being prepared.

The Iron Hospital for Small-pox is kept in readiness for use.

I subjoin a summary of Sanitary Inspector's work for the year 1898.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTOR'S WORK.

Length of Sewers laid by the Authority	860	yards.
Closets erected	96	
Complaints respecting nuisances received	18	
Houses and Premises inspected	4826	
„ „ re-inspected	3709	

Notices served for sanitary amendment	680
Schools disinfected	7
Houses disinfected after infectious disease	64
Drains repaired, cleaned and trapped	56
Cesspools covered and ventilated	2
Cesspools abolished	40
Privies and ash-pits repaired	36
Accumulations of refuse removed	294
Cisterns, wells, etc., repaired and cleaned out	10
Piggery nuisances abated	15
Roofs, eaves and spouts to repair	9
Houses unfit for human habitation	2
Cases of over-crowding	7
School notifications respecting infectious disease	180
Reports to Sanitary Committee	21
Reports to council	6
Statutory notices served	76
Legal proceedings	23
Reports to Medical Officer of Health respecting sanitary condition of premises where infectious disease has occurred	79

Appended to this Report are the usual tables respecting deaths, births, population, and new cases of infectious disease.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

R. Wyatt Jamie, M.A., M.B., C.M., D.P.H., Camb.,

Medical Officer of Health.

Coalville,

14th February, 1899.

(A)

TABLE OF **DEATHS** *during the Year 1898, in the* **COALVILLE URBAN DISTRICT,** *classified according to* DISEASES, AGES, *and* LOCALITIES.

NAMES OF LOCALITIES adopted for the purpose of these Statistics; public institutions being shown as separate localities. *(See note 4 on back of sheet.)* *(Columns for Population and Births are in Table B.)* (a)	MORTALITY FROM ALL CAUSES, AT SUBJOINED AGES.								MORTALITY FROM SUBJOINED CAUSES, DISTINGUISHING DEATHS OF CHILDREN UNDER FIVE YEARS OF AGE.																				
									1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
													FEVERS.																	
	At all ages. (b)	Under 1 year. (c)	1 and under 5 (d)	5 and under 15 (e)	15 and under 25 (f)	25 and under 65 (g)	65 and upwards. (h)	(i)	Smallpox.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup.	Typhus.	Enteric or Typhoid.	Continued.	Relapsing.	Puerperal.	Cholera.	Erysipelas.	Measles.	Whooping Cough.	Diarrhœa and Dysentery.	Rheumatic Fever.	Phthisis.	Bronchitis, Pneumonia, and Pleurisy.	Heart Disease.	*	Injuries.	All other Diseases.	TOTAL.
								Under 5																						
								5 upwards																						
Coalville Ward	122	39	27	3	6	38	9	Under 5												14		5			9				38	66
								5 upwards		1				3					1					2	4	7		12	26	56
								Under 5																						
								5 upwards																						
Hugglescote Ward	63	28	10	3	3	15	4	Under 5				1								5	1	6			8				17	38
								5 upwards									1							2	3	4		2	13	25
								Under 5																						
								5 upwards																						
Whitwick Ward	70	33	15	1	3	6	12	Under 5												12	1	5			1				29	48
								5 upwards						3								1				6			12	22
								Under 5																						
								5 upwards																						
								Under 5																						
								5 upwards																						
								Under 5																						
								5 upwards																						
								Under 5																						
								5 upwards																						
TOTALS	255	100	52	7	12	59	25	Under 5				1								31	2	16			18				84	152
								5 upwards		1				6			1		1			1		4	7	17		14	51	103

The subjoined numbers have also to be taken into account in judging of the above records of mortality. *See Note 5 on back.*

Deaths occurring outside the district among persons belonging thereto.								Under 5																						
								5 upwards																						
Deaths occurring within the district among persons not belonging thereto.								Under 5																						
								5 upwards																						

* The heading of column 19 is left blank for the insertion of Influenza, or any other disease which it may be thought desirable to record.

NOTES ON TABLES A AND B.

NOTE. 1. *Medical Officers of Health of "Combined Districts" must make a separate Return for the District of each District Council.*

2. *Medical Officers of Health acting for a portion only of the District of a District Council should write, in the heading of the Table, the designation of the Division for which they act.*

3. *The words "Urban," "Rural," or "Metropolitan" must be inserted in the appropriate space in the heading, according as the District is Urban or Rural, or is within the Metropolitan Area.*

4. The "*Localities*" adopted for the purpose of these statistics should be areas of known population; such as parishes, groups of parishes, townships or wards.

As stated at the head of the first column in each Table, *Public Institutions* should be regarded as separate localities, and the deaths in them should be separately recorded. Workhouses, Hospitals, Infirmaries, Asylums, and other establishments into which numbers of people, and especially of sick people, are received, are Public Institutions for the purpose of these statistics.

5. *The deaths which have to be classified in this Table* (A), and summed up in the horizontal line of "Totals," are the whole of those *registered* as having actually occurred in the several localities comprised within the Division or District. But the registered number of deaths frequently requires correction before it can give an exact view of the mortality of a Division or District; and the two lowest horizontal lines are provided for the purpose of enabling Medical Officers of Health to indicate, to the best of their ability, what the extent of such corrections should be. Details concerning the corrective figures, *e.g.*, the institutions that have been considered, or the particular localities to which corrections apply, may appear in the text of the report or in supplementary tables.

Area and Population of the District or Division to which this Return relates.

Area in Acres, **5,980.**

Population (Last Census) **11,690.**

,, (Estimated to middle of 1898) **14,000.**

Death Rates	General **18·2.**	per 1000 Population, estimated to middle of 1898.
	Infant (under one year of age) **177.**	per 1000 Births Registered.

In recording the facts under the various headings of Tables A and B, attention has been given to the notes endorsed on the Tables.

R. WYATT JAMIE, M.A., M.B., C.M., D.P.H., Camb.,
Medical Officer of Health.

14TH FEBRUARY, 1899.

(B) *TABLE OF* POPULATION, BIRTHS, AND OF NEW CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS, *coming to the knowledge of the Medic Officer of Health during the year 1898, in the* COALVILLE URBAN DISTRICT; *classified according to* DISEASES, AGES, *and* LOCALITIES.

NAMES OF LOCALITIES adopted for the purpose of these Statistics; Public Institutions being shown as separate localities. *(See Note 2 on back of Sheet).* (a)	POPULATION AT ALL AGES. Last Census. (b)	Estimated to middle of 1898. (c)	Registered Births. (d)	Aged under 5 or over 5. (e)	NEW CASES OF SICKNESS IN EACH LOCALITY, COMING TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH. 1 Smallpox.	2 Scarlatina.	3 Diphtheria.	4 Membranous Croup.	FEVERS. 5 Typhus.	6 Enteric or Typhoid.	7 Continued	8 Relapsing.	9 Puerperal.	10 Cholera.	11 Erysipelas.	12	13
Coalville Ward		5,650	236	Under 5		6	1			1							
				5 upwards		20	1			18					4		
Hugglescote Ward H	11,690	4,180	158	Under 5		3											
				5 upwards		12	1			4			1		3		
Whitwick Ward		4,170	170	Under 5													
				5 upwards		13				9					4		
TOTALS	11,690	14,000	564	Under 5		9	1			1							
				5 upwards		45	2			31			1		11		

NUMBER OF SUCH CASES REMOVED FROM THEIR HOMES IN THE SEVERAL LOCALITIES FOR TREATMENT IN ISOLATION HOSPITAL.	1 Smallpox.	2 Scarlatina.	3 Diphtheria.	4 Membranous Croup.	FEVERS. 5 Typhus.	6 Enteric or Typhoid.	7 Continued.	8 Relapsing.	9 Puerperal.	10 Cholera.	11 Erysipelas.	12	13
Coalville Ward						1							
Hugglescote Ward H													
Whitwick Ward													
TOTALS						1							

State here whether "Notification of Infectious Disease" is compulsory in the District—**Yes.** Since when?—**1st November, 1892.** Besides the above-mentioned Diseases, insert in the columns with blank headings the names of any other diseases that are notifiable in the District, and fill the columns accordingly. State here the name of the Isolation Hospital used by the sick of the District. Mark (H) the Locality in which such Hospital is situated; or if not within the District, state where it is situated—**In the District, in Hugglescote Ward: for Smallpox only.**

NOTES ON TABLE B.

(See also Notes on back of Table A.)

NOTE 1. The present *Table B.* is concerned with population, births, and sickness (not with mortality) in the district or division to which the Table relates.

2. As stated in the heading of Col. *(a.)*, *Public Institutions* should be regarded as separate localities, and the new cases of sickness in them should be separately recorded. Workhouses, Hospitals, Infirmaries, Asylums, and other establishments into which numbers of people, and especially of sick people, are received, are Public Institutions for the purpose of these statistics.

3. *Comments on any unequal incidence of notifiable disease upon the several localities, and considerations as to local incidence of Consumption and other prevalent diseases, should be made in the text of the Report.*